

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH

23 SEP 1952

A.

**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BEDWELLTY**

REPORT

OF THE

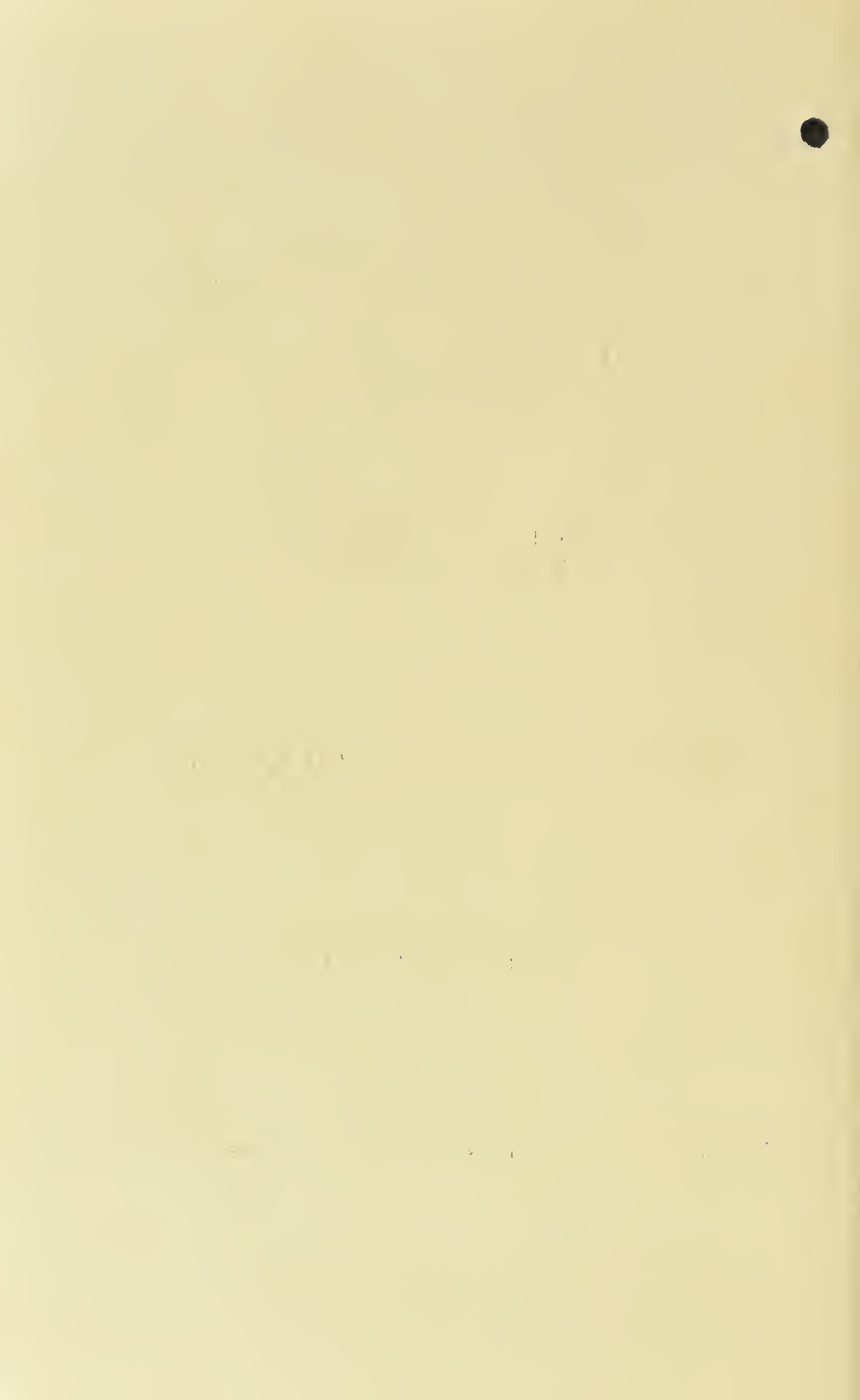
Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

Year Ended 31st. December 1951



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BEDWELLY

REPORT

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BEDWELLY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL 1952

Chairman: Councillor G. H. Hawker, J.P.
Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. H. Alderman.

Members

Alderman E. Thomas, J.P.	Councillor E. J. Butler
Councillor J. D. Turner	" F. O. Sainsbury
" W. G. Hardacre	" T. I. Davies
" S. T. Williams	" J. Salways
" I. J. Bowen	" G. H. Hodges
" S. Collicot	" Lewis Lewis
" D. Davies	" A. G. Parfitt
" E. Johns	" W. Davies
" G. H. Thomas	" J. Roberts, J.P.
Clerk to the Council: D. Hilton Lewis, Esq.	

Housing and Public Health Committee:

Chairman: Alderman E. Thomas, J.P.	
Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. H. Alderman.	
Councillor Lewis Lewis,	" T. I. Davies
" G. H. Hodges	" G. H. Thomas
" Dd. Davies	" J. D. Turner
" F. O. Sainsbury	" W. Hardacre
" A. G. Parfitt	" S. T. Williams
" I. Bowen	

Health Department Staff

Medical Officer of Health ...	Dr. Richard Hoey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector ...	Dan Powell, M.B.E., F.R.S.I., F.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat & Foods Inspector)
Sanitary Inspector	Arthur M. Coleman, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat & Foods Inspector)
Sanitary Inspector & Shops Inspector	W. Trevor Rees, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Qualified Meat & Foods Inspector)
Rodent Operator	Sidney Parker
Clerk	James C. Bowen, (Qualified Sanitary Inspector)
Mortuary and Post Mortem Attendant (Part-time)	Elias Jones

Summary of Statistics for 1951

Area of District in Acres	7,353
Population (Census 1921)	31,088
(Census 1931)	30,970
(Census 1951)	28,826
Estimated population for Birth and Death Rates	28,590
Number of inhabited houses (31/12/51) ...	6,910
Number of persons per house	4.17
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1952	£102.929
Product of Penny Rate, 1951-52	£359 6 8
Number of births	577
Nett birth rate	20.18
Number of illegitimate births	32
Number of deaths of residents	394
Nett death rate	13.78
Number of deaths under one year	23
Of these there were illegitimate	0
Infantile mortality, per 1000 births	39.86
Number of women dying from childbirth ...	1
Number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	11
" " Influenza	19
" " Bronchitis	35
" " Pneumonia	19
" " Measles	1
" " Circulatory	
Diseases	101
" " Cancer	39
" " Industrial Disease	17

Year	Births		Deaths	
1948	...	703	...	325
1949	...	642	...	338
1950	...	626	...	319
1951	...	577	...	394

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Aberbargoed,
Bargoed, Glam.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

At the end of three years as Medical Officer of Health, Bedwellty Urban District Council, and Area Medical Officer, No. 2 Area, Monmouthshire County Council, I feel at last in a position to give a personal account of my observations and opinions of the area.

When I took this job on (I was the only applicant) I had no idea what I was letting myself in for, nor of the immense privilege which I was to be so fortunate to obtain. I have pictured grimy valleys, full of dreary people, as envisaged in A. J. Cronin's book. Instead I have been in close contact with the grandest people on earth, yet who have to fight hard for a place in the sun where there is little let up in the struggle between the sellers and purchasers of labour.

Since I have been here the Monmouthshire County Council has built up a health scheme which is one of the best in the country and can only be substantially improved by fresh medical advances and by legislation. I would like here to pay special tribute to the Chairman and Members of the County Health and Education Committees, to Dr. Gwyn Rocyn Jones, their Medical Officer and to all the other members of their staff who have formulated this splendid service.

However, I still feel that the key vital statistics are disappointing. A fall in the infant mortality rate this year makes a significant drop of ten per thousand for the last three years against those for the three preceding. This means that there has been the same general improvement as registered in the country as a whole. If this

public health scheme is going to justify itself it must do better than that, and I have no doubt that it will. The figures for tuberculosis do not show any significant improvement, the resistance of people to this disease being apparently lower than of those in England and Wales as a whole. However, the time has also come when we may start to hammer at the portcullis of the Dark Tower. I would therefore like to print in full this preface, written by the man who is possibly the world's greatest authority on BCG inoculation, to what is perhaps the first authentic proof of its efficacy.

Acta Tuberculosis Scandicaica Suppl. 27 Vol. 25.

The Efficacy of B.C.G. Vaccination.

**A study on vaccinated and tuberculin negative
non-vaccinated conscripts.**

by

Gunnar Dahlstrom and Heus Difs 131 pp.

Copenhagen 1951

Foreword by Arvid Wallgren.

Although B.C.G. vaccination has now been used for more than a quarter of a century, its prophylactic effect is still questioned by some renowned authors. They have had no personal experience with the method and they base their opinions on data appearing in reports published by others. The conclusions of these reports they criticise from statistical points of view and consider (them) to be of little or no scientific value.

As a matter of fact most of these reports do not prove anything. The conclusions drawn in them are too optimistic and are wide open to destructive criticism. But it is inconceivable that we should be able to reproduce in studies in man the controlled conditions (which) we use in experiments in laboratory animals and so to provide two groups statistically identical except for the factor of B.C.G. vaccination. And it is absolutely unthinkable in a country like Sweden, in which B.C.G. vaccination is considered by physicians and laymen alike to be a valuable prophylactic measure against tuberculosis, that a large group of Mantoux-negative people could be deliberately left uninoculated, so to run the apparently increased risk of the disease.

If it is impossible to do experimental B.C.G. studies in man on an ideal statistical basis, other clinical and public health pathways must be followed. These will not provide statistical evidence exactly comparable to that obtainable in animal experimentation; but, as witness the rather recent studies reported by Arouson in the United States, Heunbeck in Norway and Hyge in Denmark, they will at least approach that ideal. Further research work showing B.C.G.'s preventative effect, the degree of that effect and its limitation is, however, needed in order to convince those who are still reluctant to accept the method. A report of such work is that by Dahlstrom and Difs, the first part of which is now presented.

With great accuracy, care and energy, the authors have investigated the incidence of various kinds of tuberculous disease among tuberculin-negative Swedish Army conscripts, comparing two large groups, one of which is B.C.G. vaccinated. They discuss at some length the statistical comparability of the two groups, and come, finally, to the apparently fully justified conclusion that those groups are statistically equal. The two groups consist of individuals of the same age and sex and of the same natural resistance. The risk of infection and the living conditions are apparently the same and the periods of observation are the same. Vaccination was performed on a voluntary basis, and in an adequate manner after satisfactory negative testing with tuberculin. The morbidity rate was ascertained by studying the files of the National Insurance Office, to which every suspect or proved case of tuberculosis had to be reported. The authors believe that this regulation was scrupulously observed, and that all recognised tuberculous disease in the groups studied really was reported to the National Insurance Office. Probably they are right in their assumption. In any event, there is no reason to expect any difference in the completeness of the reporting of the two groups. The reported cases were minutely studied and evaluated and then tabulated on the bases of type of disease, time of manifestation and group. The data are treated statistically according to current methods.

The results indicate a prophylactic effect of B.C.G. vaccination, not only on primary tuberculosis but also on plurisy and early post-primary destructive pulmonary tuberculosis. The ratio of the latter in the two groups is 1.4% a statistically significant difference. As far as I know, this is the first time (that) it has been satisfactorily shown that post-primary tuberculous disease may, to a certain extent, be prevented by B.C.G. vaccination. It is conceivable that, since

early destructive pulmonary tuberculosis often develops as a progression of primary tuberculous foci in the lungs, the incidence of this type of destructive pulmonary tuberculosis ought to be lower in people with no or with insignificant primary foci. Whether this decreased incidence of post-primary pulmonary tuberculosis is valid only for the early manifestation or holds true also for the late forms remains to be further elucidated.

Dahlstrom and Difs have, in this paper, submitted an interesting study of the effect of B.C.G. vaccination and have presented a valuable support to the promotion of this method. Their contribution is of a high standard and cannot be overdrawn by future students of B.C.G. vaccination.

61,000 T.B. Negatives.
 36,235 = 58.9% vacc.
 25,239 = 41.1% not vacc.

Let us hope, therefore, that it will not be long before full scale schemes are brought into being to protect young people (whose susceptibility appears to be, if anything, increasing) from the misery attendant upon this disease. It will cost money, but nothing compared (as is always the case in preventive medicine) with the cost of cure. In the meantime, the ever rising cost of hospital treatment must be attacked in this and many other ways by a cessation of the apathy of the public and their elected representatives to the blessings conferred on humanity by the Goddess Hygeia.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. A. HOEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTHS 1951

Births registered during the year :

					Males	Females
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	286	259
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	15	17
					<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	...	...	...	301	276
					<hr/>	<hr/>

Live birth rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	20.18
Percentage Illegitimate and Legitimate	...	...	5.9%
Still births	...	...	16
Still birth rate per 1,000 of population	...	...	0.56

Births for the previous years may be compared :

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
756	703	642	626	577

DEATH RATES

The death rate after correction of inward and outward transfers was 13.78.

Death rates for previous years may be compared :

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
11.78	11.31	11.69	11.00	13.78

AGES AT DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR

Under 1 week	...	...	...	...	9
1-2 weeks	...	...	...	...	1
2-3 weeks	...	...	...	...	0
3-4 weeks	...	...	...	...	2
					—
Total under one month	...	...	...	...	12
					—
1-3 months	...	...	...	...	3
3-6 months	...	...	...	...	4
6-9 months	...	...	...	...	2
9-12 months	...	...	...	...	2
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	23
					—

COMPARISON OF INFANTILE MORTALITY

Bedwellty U.D.	...	39.86	per 1,000 births
Monmouth County	...	43.1	per 1,000 births
England and Wales	...	29.6	per 1,000 births

DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES

Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Measles	...	...	...	1

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Per 1,000 births (Live and Still) :

Bedwellty	...	...	...	1.73
Monmouth County	...	...	...	1.48

OCCUPATIONAL INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS

Occupation Males.	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Total
Miner	6	1	7
Colliery Fitter ...	1	—	1
Electrical Winder ...	1	—	1
School	3	2	5
Under School Age ...	2	—	2
Factory	2	—	2
Accountant	1	—	1
Railway Engineer ...	2	—	2
Clerk	1	—	1
Retired	2	—	2
Unemployed	2	—	2
Forces	1	—	1
Mason	1	—	1

Females

Factory	2	—	2
Domestic	1	—	1
Housewife	11	1	12
Under School Age ...	2	1	3
School	2	1	3
Home	2	—	2
Bus Conductress ...	1	—	1

SANATORIUM AND HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Cases		Non-Pulmonary Cases	
	Admis'n	Disch'ge	Admis'n	Disch'ge
Cefn Mabley	4	5	—	—
Gelligaer Hospital ...	5	3	—	—
Adelina Patti, Swansea	1	3	—	—
Energlyn, Caerphilly ...	6	3	—	—
Hereford County Hosp.	0	1	—	—
Mardy Hospital ...	1	3	—	—
Glanelly Hospital ...	4	2	1	—
Panteg Hospital ...	1	0	—	—
Memorial Ward, Chepstow	6	2	—	—
Highland Moors ...	1	1	—	—
Sully Hospital	5	7	—	—
S. Wales San., Talgarth	4	1	—	—
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff	0	0	—	1
St. Brides, Haverfordwest	1	1	—	—
Isolation Hosp., Coedymoeth Aberbargoed	0	0	2	—
T.B. Hospital, Brompton	1	1	—	—
N. Wales San., Denbigh	1	1	—	—
Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth	1	0	—	—
General Hosp., Tredegar	1	0	—	—
Abertysswg Hospital ...	1	0	—	—
St. James Hosp., Tredegar	0	0	1	—
	44	34	4	1

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS

Month	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
January	... 3	—	3
February	... 1	3	4
March	... 7	—	7
April	... 4	1	5
May	... 3	—	3
June	... 4	—	4
July	... 6	1	7
August	... 4	—	4
September	... 5	1	6
October	... 4	—	4
November	... 3	—	3
December	... 2	—	2
	46	6	52

TUBERCULOSIS Comparison of Notifications and Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the last ten years

Year	Formal Notifications	Deaths
1940	33	21
1941	46	20
1942	39	28
1943	49	18
1944	52	17
1945	42	22
1946	38	20
1947	35	16
1948	36	19
1949	42	19
1950	32	15
1951	46	10

APPENDIX I. AREA ADMINISTRATION

NO. 2 AREA MON. COUNTY COUNCIL

(1) **Vaccination** 327.

(2) **Immunisation**

Primary	566.
Boosters	565.
Total	1131.

(3) **Immunisation at Schools**

All Infants' Schools were visited and Primary and Boosters injections were carried out to the pupils whose parents consented to same. (Completed May, 1952).

(4) **School Medical Examinations**

All schools in the whole area were completed during the School leaving year.

(5) **Ringworm**

Ringworm Investigation was carried out at several schools.

(6) **Domestic Home Helps**

Average number of Home Helps for year was 40.

(7) **Home Help Cases**

A total of 120 cases have been supplied with the services of the Home Help, most of them being permanent cases.

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause of Death	Under 1 week										Total
	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4 wksto 3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	Total			
Violence	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2			
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1			
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2			
Pneumonia	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	3			
Measles	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1			
Prematurity	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
Bronchitis	—	—	2	2	1	1	—	6			
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1			
Total	9	1	0	2	3	4	2	2	23		

TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

The following table shows the new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during 1951

Age Period in Years	NEW CASES					DEATHS				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
0-1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1
5-15	2	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	8	8	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	3	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35-45	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
45-55	5	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
55-65	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
65 & over	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total	25	21	3	3	6	8	2	1	0	1

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN REGISTRATION WARDS AND QUARTERS DURING 1951

Notifiable Disease	Totals	Phillipstown	New Tredegar	Aberbargoed	Pengam	Ceŷn Fforest	Blackwood	Argoed	Markham	Hollybush	Quarters			
											1.	2.	3.	4.
Measles ...	390	111	133	33	16	28	59	5	5	—	249	109	28	4
Scarlet Fever	42	4	13	3	2	5	15	—	—	—	17	12	6	7
Pneumonia ...	8	1	1	1	—	2	2	1	—	—	7	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	69	3	10	18	18	6	12	—	2	—	—	26	40	3
Meningococcal Infection	11	—	—	1	4	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	6	4
Sonné Dysentry	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ...	526	120	158	57	41	44	91	6	9	0	275	150	81	20

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

CASES NOTIFIED Age Groups														DEATHS Age Groups												
DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 & over	Total all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 & over	Total all ages
Measles and German Measles	19	31	53	56	59	158	7	6	1	—	—	—	390	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	1	7	24	6	1	1	1	—	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	19
Pneumonia	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	3	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	6	9	18	12	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	69	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	30	38	65	76	78	201	17	7	10	1	4	2	529	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	22

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

Cause of Death	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-55 years	55-65 years	65-75 years	75 & over	Totals
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Whooping Cough	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	4	1	—	10
Non-Respiratory Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Influenza	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	6	5	2	2
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Cancer—Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Cancer—Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	4	13
Cancer—other sites	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	10	2	24
Cancer—Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Department,

Municipal Offices,

Aberbargoed,

Mon.

31st July, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bedwellty Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the
work done in the Department during 1951.

NOTICES SERVED

(a) Public Health Act, 1936. Sec. 92 and 93 (Abatement of
Nuisances and Repairs to Property).

Intimation Notices	...	...	...	335
Abatement Notices	...	...	...	104

(b) Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 83 (Cleansing of Premises)

No. of notices served	19
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(c) Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 138 and Water Act, 1945.

(Provision of sufficient water supply).

No. of Notices served	41
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(d) Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sec. 13.

(Notice of contravention of Act in respect of premises
where food is sold or stored).

No. of Intimation Notices	...	...	40
No. of Statutory Notices	...	...	6

Rent and Mortgages Interest Restriction Acts.

Number of certificates granted under the Act during
the year ... 2

HOUSING ACT, 1936

The number of dwellings inspected for repairs amounted to 510.

During the year, Demolition Orders were made by the Council in respect of Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Cwm Road Argoed, but at the time of writing the report, the houses were still in occupation.

Proceedings under Section II. of the Housing Act, 1936 were taken in respect of 3 Brewery Cottages, Fleur-de-lis. On a breach of undertaking to carry out repairs, a Demolition Order was made by the Council. An appeal was made by the owner under Section 15, and during the interval between the making of the Order and the case being heard at County Court, the owner carried out the work specified in the original undertaking. The Judge allowed the appeal of the owner.

CEFN FFOREST HOUSING

In February the Pengam Housing Society Limited, owners of 496 houses at Cefn Fforest, decided to offer them for sale to the sitting tenants. The Council, being of opinion that the majority of the houses were in a poor state of repair and likely on that account to prove burdensome to individual owners, made a Compulsory Purchase Order for the acquisition of 425, the remaining 71 having been sold. A Public Local Enquiry was held at Aberbargoed on the 26th and 27th July, and the Society as the principal objectors were represented by Mr. H. Edmund Davies, K.C., and Mr. David Pennant, Barrister at Law.

In November the Minister of Housing and Local Government notified the Council of his reasons for deciding not to confirm the Order.

Up to the 15th July, 1952, a total of 165 houses have been sold by the Society.

I wish to thank Mr. D. Hilton Lewis, Clerk to the Council for the above information.

COUNCIL HOUSES

The Department is primarily concerned with the inspection of prospective tenants, the maintenance of general cleanliness by the tenants, and the condition of the gardens and surroundings.

Each of your houses was inspected during the year by Inspector W. T. Rees, a few houses having to be re-visited and notices served to cleanse the premises, but generally speaking the houses were found to be in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

It is again to be deplored that a few tenants do not take any interest in their gardens. These cases were reported to your Surveyor (Mr. T. J. Jones) for action.

Prospective tenants visited and reports			
submitted to Accountant	...	...	59
Number of transfers inspected	...	...	20
Empty houses inspected	...	...	12
Number of houses disinfested	...	...	3

LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES IN EACH WARD OF THE AREA

	In apartments	Others	Total
Aberbargoed ...	163	46	209
Argoed	135	27	162
Blackwood ...	254	55	309
Cefn Fforest ...	118	11	129
New Tredegar ...	140	54	194
Pengam	138	41	179
Outside Area ...	68	—	68
	1,016	234	1,250

I am indebted to Mr. A. E. Morris, Chief Financial Officer, for the above information.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of disinfections carried out after cases of infectious disease: 11.

Number of inquiries made after notification of infectious disease: 56.

A copy of all notifications of infectious disease is sent within twenty-four hours, to the County Medical Officer of Health.

On the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health, no disinfections are carried out after cases of scarlet fever, unless by special request.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one Lodging house in the Area, at Blackwood, and this is occasionally used by a few aged persons. Inspections have been made at various times during the year.

WATER SUPPLIES

41 Notices were served on owners of property to provide an adequate water supply. These houses were in the New Tredegar Ward. The old supplies have corroded.

28 samples of water were taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for examination. 8 samples were unsatisfactory.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are no Swimming Pools in the Area, the two nearest being at Pontllanfraith and Bargoed.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

A large amount of pollution still continues in both Valleys, by the washings from Collieries, also from house refuse being dumped by some householders.

The Rodent Operator, in conjunction with the operators of adjoining Local Authorities, baited the banks of the rivers.

RAINFALL

I am obliged to the Surveyor for the following information. 1951 was the wettest year on record in the Bedwellty Area, with a rainfall of 66.04 inches, the previous highest year being 1924 with 65.66 inches.

The wettest month was November, with 12.74 inches and the driest, October, with 1.34 inches. No rain fell on 152 days.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Number of factories with mechanical power ...	39
Number of factories without mechanical power	33
Number of Outworkers	0
Number of inspections made	76

Under Section 34 of the Factories Act, Certificates as to means of escape in case of fire have been issued for 2 factories.

Over 500 persons are employed in the larger factories in the Area, and the majority of these are female labour.

There are no outworkers in the District.

CINEMAS

Visits have been made to all cinemas in connection with the ventilation and sanitary accommodation of these premises. The accommodation is generally satisfactory — only one notice was served in this respect. The rodent operator carried out disinfestation of rats in the outbuildings of two cinemas.

CAMPING SITES

Public Health Act 1936, Section 269

There are no camping sites in the Area, and during the year no applications for licences were received.

RAT AND MICE DESTRUCTION

The maintenance treatment of sewers, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, was carried out twice during the year by Mr. S. Parker (Rodent Operator), and one casual worker.

Inspections of farms were made under the "Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks, Regulations, 1950," when threshing was in progress. All the farmers in the Area received circulars informing them of the purpose of these Regulations.

It is pleasing to report that there seems to be a decrease in the rat population in the Phillipstown, Aberbargoed and Hollybush Wards.

Below is a table giving details of the treatment of sewers :—

Ward	No. of Manholes	Baited	No. of Manholes showing	
			Prebait Take	No Take
New Tredegar	81	81	26	55
Aberbargoed	55	55	4	51
Pengam	79	79	29	50
Cefn Fforest	16	16	6	10
Blackwood	104	104	70	34
Argoed	47	47	16	31
Markham	26	26	11	15
Hollybush	20	20	0	20
Totals	428	428	162	266

On complaint all types of premises were visited and in some cases advice was given.

Poison baiting, trapping and gasing were carried out where necessary. Mice infestation was also dealt with in private dwellings houses.

Below are details of treatments carried out on various types of premises.

Business premises	...	...	...	...	64
Council properties (including rivers, culvert points)	...	...	...	...	55
Private Dwellings	...	...	...	...	284

I would again like to record my thanks to Mr. R. Davies (Regional Rodent Control Officer) and Mr. F. C. Hall (Infestation Officer), of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, for their co-operation and advice.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, Section 50 BURIAL OR CREMATION OF THE DEAD

Number of persons buried by the Authority ... 11
The majority of persons buried were old age pensioners.
The Undertakers are :—

For the Sirhowy Valley : Mr. Herbert Jones, Blackwood.
For the Rhymney Valley : Mr. C. Wilde, New Tredegar.

No application was made for cremation of a body.

PUBLIC MORTUARY AND POST MORTEM ROOM

Number of autopsies conducted in the Post Mortem Room during the year, 52.

These premises are under my supervision and the part-time attendant is Mr. Elias Jones.

Cases dealt with at the Mortuary :

From :—

New Tredegar	...	20
Aberbargoed	... ..	4
Pengam	... ..	8
Cefn Fforest	... ..	7
Blackwood	... ..	4
Markham	... ..	5
Argoed	... ..	1
Hollybush	... ..	—
From outside the Area		3
		<hr/> 52 <hr/>

PUBLIC HOUSES AND CLUBS

Attention has been paid to the cleanliness and sanitary conditions at these premises. Generally, they were satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING

The Public Cleansing and Scavenging is carried out by the Council under the direct control of the Surveyor, Mr. T. J. Jones.

TUBERCULOSIS

There were 52 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year. 46 of these cases were of the pulmonary type.

An inspection was made in each case of the accommodation etc., also particulars of the environmental conditions. Records were also kept of admissions and discharges to and from sanatoria or hospitals.

Whilst it is the function of the County Council for the

prevention, care and after-care of tuberculosis patients, it is the duty of the District Council to see that the inhabitants of their District are properly housed and that existing houses are in a good state of repair, etc. A great deal of time and attention has been devoted by your officers to the housing conditions and it was found necessary, during the year, to serve notices on owners of certain houses occupied by tuberculosis patients to attend to repairs. The Council, on the report of the M.O.H. re-housed a number of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

During the year, a conference was called by Dr. Gwyn Rōcyn Jones, County M.O.H., of District Medical Officers and Sanitary Inspectors to consider the general question of prevention of tuberculosis. Such conferences are useful, for exchange of views and the co-operation of the County and District Health Departments in an endeavour to prevent the spread of this disease.

HEALTH EDUCATION

An Exhibition in connection with the Festival of Britain Week, organised by the Council and Bedwellty District Further Education Committee, was held at Aberbargoed on 5th-7th July. A part of the Exhibition was devoted to Public Health Work. This part was arranged in the following Sections:—

1. The Pediculosis problem.
2. Clean Milk.
3. Cafe and Canteen Hygiene.
4. Accidents in the Home.
5. Vermin control and disinfectants.
6. The Clean Food Campaign—photographs.
7. Mass Radiography and X-rays: The Campaign and the Public.
8. Health Education leaflets—over 5,000 leaflets were for free distribution.

The Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Richard Hoey) produced for the occasion, a book "A Short History of Bedwellty District and Vicinity," which contained some very interesting information on the health and social conditions of the district.

During the year a "Health Education Brains Trust" was held at the Community Centre, Aberbargoed. This proved a successful function.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

(a) Vendors were again visited by the Inspectors and circulars were sent to shopkeepers regarding latest methods of cleanliness in handling and distribution of foodstuffs.

Early in the year the Council had cards printed for distribution amongst occupiers of foodshops, requesting the public in the interest of health not to bring their dogs into shops. A number of notices were served in respect of small breaches of the Act and Regulations, and these were duly complied with.

(b) Clean Food Byelaws: The Council adopted the Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Food, and a copy of same was posted to every foodshop, store, restaurant and canteen in the Area.

(c) Restaurants, Pithead and School Canteens: Below is a list of the catering establishments in the Area.

Number of Catering Establishments in the Area

Ward	Restaurants serving full meals	Cafes	Pithead canteens	School canteens	Factory canteens
New Tredegar	—	3	1	5	1
Aberbargoed	1	1	1	3	2
Pengam	—	—	2	3	1
Cefn Fforest	1	—	—	1	—
Blackwood	7	3	—	2	2
Markham	—	—	1	1	—
Argoed	—	—	—	1	—
Hollybush	—	—	—	1	—
Total	9	7	5	17	6

These premises were regularly inspected and the attention of food handlers was called to the importance of the practice of personal hygiene, and a full appreciation of the danger of contaminated food to the consumers. In most premises overalls were provided by the establishment and frequently changed.

RESEARCH ON POLIOMYELITIS VIRIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

On the suggestion of the Public Health Laboratory, Medical Research Council, Newport, we assisted in investigations to try and isolate the virus from sewer swabs. The Medical Research Council examined specimens from 50 towns with a population of 5,000 to 10,000 persons, and from 50 villages or other isolated groups of 50 to 200 houses in England and Wales. Urban Districts with a population of 5,000 to 10,000 were chosen because it was difficult to find larger areas where no cases had occurred within the last 3 years. Work was commenced by the Inspectors on 4th May, 1951, in the Aberbargoed ward of your Area, the swabs being collected a few days later and taken to Newport to the Laboratory where within a few hours of collection the specimens were frozen, packed in ice or CO² and sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, London.

Sixty swabs were placed in the sewer manholes. Thirty of the swabs were sent to the Virus Reference Laboratory to be examined for Poliomyelitis. The remaining thirty were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for Typhoid and Salmonella (Food poisoning) organisms.

All were negative except in one case in which Salmonella Thompson, a food poisoning organism, was isolated.

SHOPS ACT 1950

Number of Shops and Shop Assistants in Bedwellty District

Ward.	Type of Premises				Shop Assistants			
	Shops	Sheds	Market Stalls	Total Premises	Over 18 years	16-18 years	14-16 years	Total
New Tredegar	105	—	—	105	71	17	14	102
Aberbargoed	49	1	—	50	26	11	5	42
Pengam	45	1	—	46	26	6	7	39
Cefn Fforest	25	—	—	25	8	1	—	9
Blackwood	135	3	3	141	309	87	31	427
Argoed	12	3	—	15	6	2	1	9
Markham	8	3	—	11	13	3	—	16
Hollybush	4	—	—	4	2	1	1	4
Totals	383	11	3	397	461	128	59	648

Notices Served

Shops Act 1950 and Young Persons Employment Act 1938.	
Number of Notices served	4
Shops Act 1950. Section 37.	
Number of Notices served	1
Shops Act 1950. Section 38.	
Number of Notices served	2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

Thirty-one samples of milk were taken during the year. Of this number, six were unsatisfactory. In each case, steps were taken to remedy the cause of the unsatisfactory sample, and subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

Number of distributors and vendors in the	
Bedwellty Area (not including producers)	55
Number of Dairies (other than dairy farms) ...	6

Milk (Special Designations) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations, 1949 and Milk (Special Designations) Raw Milk Regulations, 1949

Licences were issued during the year as follows :—

(a) Dealers licences for sale of Pasteurised milk	25
(b) Dealers licences for sale of Accredited milk	2
(c) Dealers licences for sale of tuberculin tested milk	8
(d) Licences in respect of bottling establishments	6
(e) Supplementary licences for sale of Designated milk by vendors from outside the Area	12

(b) Ice Cream

Attention has been paid to the ice cream trade — to manufacturers and vendors. The number of retailers on the register at the end of the year was 47.

Samples were taken and submitted for examination at the Laboratory, Newport, and the results of these samples showed as follows :—

Grade I standard :	6 samples
Grade 2 standard :	4 samples
Grade 3 standard :	3 samples
Grade 4 standard :	6 samples

(c) Meat and Other Foods

The following table shows the amounts of food found to be unfit for human consumption on inspection at various shops and stores. All food shops are regularly inspected for this purpose, and the foods are surrendered by the shopkeepers.

27 lbs. chocolate.	28 tins ham (367 lbs.)
6 bottles pickles.	15 doz. (1 lb. boxes) figs.
22 pots fish paste.	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. tea.
3 pkts. Weetabix.	1 bottle salad cream.
4 pkts. porridge oats.	20 lbs. biscuits.
50 lbs. flour.	3 bottles sauce.
6 rabbits.	13 tins Heinz baby foods.
32 lbs. sago.	1 tin sausages.
33 pkts. gravy browning.	15 tins stewed steak.
13 chickens.	424 tins tomatoes.
5 turkeys.	123 tins milk.
1 goose.	3 tins spaghetti.
48 lbs. beef.	4 tins salmon.
52 lbs. 3 ozs. ham.	4 tins rabbit.
49 fish cakes.	9 tins fish.
15 lbs. vegetable tomato links.	22 tins golden syrup.
7 jars blackberries.	163 tins plums.
3 jars marmalade.	4 tins mincemeat.
34 pies.	7 tins carrots.
82 eggs.	60 tins peas.
70 lbs. dates.	221 tins meat.
30 lbs. prunes.	34 tins beef suet.
6 bottles apricots.	6 tins jam.
61 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. butter.	4 tins tomato juice.
44 lbs. sausage.	13 tins puddings.
6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. cheese.	34 tins soup.
34 pkts. processed cheese.	10 tins beetroot.
39 tins crab paste.	112 tins fruit.
	61 tins beans.

Total approximate weight: 1 ton 3 cwts.

FOOD SHOPS

Number of Foods Shops in the District, 1951.

Ward.	Grocers	Bakers	Butchers	Fishfriers	Catering Estab.	Totals
New Tredegar ...	34	5	4	6	10	59
Aberbargoed ...	16	2	3	2	5	28
Pengam and Fleur-de-Lis	27	1	2	2	6	38
Cefn Fforest ...	14	1	2	2	1	20
Blackwood ...	36	2	10	4	10	62
Argoed ...	8	—	1	—	2	11
Markham ...	5	—	2	1	2	10
Hollybush ...	3	—	1	—	—	4
Totals ...	143	11	25	17	36	232

(d) Meat Inspection at Abattoir, Maesycwmmer

At this establishment the meat is inspected by Mr. N. G. Rhodes, additional Sanitary Inspector, Bedwas and Machen Urban District Council. His salary is paid in proportions by the Bedwellty, Gellygaer, Mynyddislwyn and Bedwas and Machen Urban District Councils. Mr. Rhodes is a qualified Meat and Food Inspector.

Below is a copy of the Annual Report submitted by the Inspector :—

Number of Animals Slaughtered

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
3,409	333	15,897	630

Approx. weight of Meat & Offals condemned 29 tons 15 cwts.

	Cows.	Other Cattle	Calves	Sheep.	Pigs
No. of animals slaughtered	1199	2210	333	15897	630
Whole carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis ...	11	1	1	—	—
Organs or carcasses affected with Tuberculosis ...	378	167	1	—	30
Percentage of animals affected with Tuberculosis	31.5	7.6	—	—	4.8
Whole carcasses condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	2	—	—	8	—
Organs affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	786	987	—	1026	5
Percentage of animals affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	65.5	44.7	—	6.5	0.8

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

	No. of cattle slaughtered.	No affected.	Percentage affected.
First Quarter ...	403	13	3.2
Second Quarter ...	491	18	3.6
Third Quarter ...	1242	32	2.6
Fourth Quarter ..	1273	26	2.0
Total ...	3409	89	2.6

Total percentage of animals infected shows a decrease of 0.8 per cent. from previous year.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE

During the year the following improvements were carried out :—

1. Installation of two extractor ventilating fans. Although this resulted in an improvement in the cooling of the beef carcasses, the hanging room, which has a floor area of 65 sq. yds. is far too small to allow sufficient space between sides of beef. During the peak period of slaughter 80 to 90 sides of beef are hung in this room, resulting in excessive and dangerous handling before loading on to lorries.

2. Replacement of old corroded cast iron water main, and internal piping with new copper piping. The pressure and volume of water in the slaughterhouse is now greatly improved.

3. The heavy work of the slaughtermen has been made easier by the provision of electric cattle hoists, and electric beef saw, but the facilities for the scalding and dressing of pigs are seriously inadequate. The present scalding arrangements consist of an ordinary household bath, which might be suitable for porker pigs, but is not suitable for the large bacon pigs now being sent to the slaughterhouse.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1933

No. of licences issued to slaughterhousemen during the year :—

- | | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 1. New licences | — |
| 2. Renewal of licences ... | 17 |

FOOD POISONING

No outbreak reported during the year.

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Police Court proceedings were taken in respect of eleven properties on non-compliance with Abatement Notices served on owners of houses. Orders were made to carry out necessary repairs.

I should like to thank the Members of the Council and the Staff for their valuable assistance and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DAN POWELL,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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